

This invention relates to an insect repellent in candle form.

Insect repellents of the type described herein are already available in the marketplace, for example so-called citronella candles which come in small buckets or glass containers. The candles include a wax substrate or base containing a wick and an active ingredient, named citronella.

While the composition displays a certain level of insect repellency at close range, there still exists a need for an insect repellent composition, which when used in the same environment as the citronella candles, effectively repels and /or disables mosquitoes, black flies and other insects.

The object to the present invention is to meet the above-defined need by providing a relatively effective insect repellent composition, which is in the form of a candle for use in the outdoors.

Accordingly, the invention relates to an insect repellent consisting essentially of, by weight, 79.80 to 99.60 % wax, 0.1 to 10 % d-allethrin, and 0.1 to 10 % piperonyl butoxide.

As mentioned above, the composition of the present invention is intended as a substitute for the existing wax-based compositions. The main ingredient of the composition is wax, preferably paraffin, which makes up 79.80 to 99.60 % by weight of the composition. The wax is melted, the active ingredients of the composition are mixed in to the liquid wax to make a homogeneous mixture. The resulting composition is poured in to a container, e.g. a small bucket, and a wick is suspended in the centre of the wax until the latter hardens.

The acting ingredients include allethrins, preferably d-allethrin, and piperonyl butoxide. As described, for example in various editions of in The Merck Index, allethrins are known, effective insecticides.

Piperonyl butoxide, which is also listed in various editions of The Merck Index, is an insecticide synergist, especially for pyrethroids such as the allethrins and rotenone.

Butylated hydroxytoluene (BHT) is an antioxidant used in the food and other industries. BHT is used in the composition as a preservative. Conventional colouring compounds and perfume are also added to the composition. The composition contains by weight: 79.80 to 99.60 % wax, at least 0.1 to 5 % d-allethrin, 0.1 to 10 % piperonyl butoxide, at least 0.1 % BHT, and 0.1 % colouring and perfume.

The preferred composition consists essentially of 99.60 % wax, at least 0.1 % d-allethrin, at least 0.1 % piperonyl butoxide, at least 0.1 % BHT and 0.1 % colouring and perfume to a total 100 %.

As mentioned above, the ingredients are mixed to form a homogenous mixture which is poured in to containers such as glass-shaped candle holders or small buckets. When used outdoors is a more effective insect repellent than existing products of the same general type.